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Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 ISLAMA 06650 110900Z
ACTION PM-05

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 INR-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 /026 W
----------084195 110918Z /20
O R 110620Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 8047
INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
CINCPAC HONOLULU
RHHMBRA CINCPACFLT PEARL HARBOR
COMSEVENTHFLT
CTF 77
CNO WASHDC
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

S E C R E T ISLAMABAD 6650

NEW DELHI FOR NEWSOM

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MPOL, PK, US
SUBJECT: POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVE TO CRUISER VISIT TO KARACHI

REF: (A) CTG 77 100414Z JUL 78 (NOTAL) (B) COMSEVENTHFLT 101228Z JUL 78
(NOTAL) (C) JCS 061812Z JUL 78 (NOTAL (D) CNO 091805Z JUL 78
(NOTAL)

1. AS DEPARTMENT IS AWARE, WE HAVE BEEN DISCUSSING WITH GOP THE POSSIBILITY OF A CRUISER VISIT TO KARACHI DURING 24-26 JULY TIME FRAME. PROBLEM SEEMS MAINLY TO BE WHETHER WE WILL BE PERMITTED AND/OR WHETHER WE WILL BE ABLE -- DUE TO DEPTH CONSIDERATIONS -- TO BRING SHIP (USS TRUXTON) INTO HARBOR AND ALONGSIDE. IT IS CLEAR TO US THAT NAVY WOULD STRONGLY PREFER NOT TO HAVE SHIP ANCHOR OUT AT THIS JUNCTURE IN THE MONSOON CYCLE, GIVEN HIGH SEAS, WINDS, ETC. WHICH COULD CURTAIL OR EVEN PRECLUDE US OF BOATS TO BRING LIVERTY
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PARTIES ASHORE AND VISITORS TO SHIP.

2. WE UNDERSTAND FROM NAVY CHANNELS THAT AN ALTERNATIVE PROPOSAL HAS BEEN FLOATED BY CTF 77; IT WOULD HAVE ENTIRE TG MOVE TO AREA OFF PAKISTAN COAST -- IN KARACHI AREA -- AND INVITE CIPS TO BE FLOWN OUT TO THE CARRIER FOR DEMONSTRATION OF CARRIER OPERATIONS AND PERHAPS A MEAL AS WELL.

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EMBASSY BELIEVES THIS IS A GOOD IDEA WHICH COULD POTENTIALLY
GET US BETTER MILEAGE THAN A SINGLE-SHIP VISIT
IN KARACHI HARBOR. WE WOULD HAVE IN MIND, OF COURSE,
INVITING PAK NAVY CHIEF TO VISIT THE SHIP, BUT WE WOULD
ALSO PROPOSE TO INVITE GENERAL ZIA -- WHO IN HIS NEW CABINET
HOLDS BOTH THE DEFENSE AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS PORTFOLIOS (AS
WELL AS HIS CHIEF OF ARMY STAFF HAT AND HIS POST AS CHIEF
MARTIAL LAW ADMINISTRATOR, I.E. DE FACTO PRIME MINISTER).

3. WE NEED TO MOVE QUICKLY ON THIS TO ENSURE MAXIMUM VIP
INVOLVEMENT; I AM NOT SURE WE CAN AFFORD TO WAIT WHILE
WE AND THE PAKISTAN NAVY SORT OUT THE BOTTOM OF KARACHI
HARBOR TO SEE IF TRUXTON CAN MAKE IT IN AND OUT.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: DEPARTMENT APPROVAL TO OPT FOR THE
VIP VISIT PLAN TO THE TG AT SEA, INCLUDING AN INVITATION
TO GENERAL ZIA, WHILE CONTINUING TO PURSUE THE TRUXTON
VISIT AS A BACK-UP PROPOSAL.

5. FOR CINCPACFLT: THIS MESSAGE CONSTITUTES EMBASSY
ENDORSEMENT OF CTF 77 PROPOSAL (REF A) AND (REF B),
PENDING APPROVAL BY DEPARTMENT OF STATE. HUMMEL

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 11 jul 1978
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVE TO CRUISER VISIT TO KARACHI
TAGS: MPOL, PK, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
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